

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 036016 TOSEC 020068
ORIGIN NEA-10

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 036016 TOSEC 020068

FOR ATHERTON FROM SOBER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LY, US

SUBJECT: US-LIBYAN RELATIONS

REF: TRIPOLI 230 (BEING REPEATED YOU)

1. DURING HIS CONSULTATIONS HERE BOB CARLE HAD A VERY USEFUL DISCUSSION WITH PETE DAY ON HOW WE SHOULD DEAL WITH LIBYA AND RESPOND TO LARG OVERTURES FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. PARA 3 REFTEL CONVEYS SUGGESTION OF LIBYAN MFA ACTING DIRECTOR AMERICAS DEPT. SAHAD THAT CHARGE CARLE ON HIS RETURN FROM AMMAN PURSUE FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST WITH MIN STATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OR MIN STATE RCC AFFAIRS. THIS INVITATION OFFERS RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR CARLE TO EXPLAIN TO LIBYANS OUR GOALS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS ITERATED BY SECRETARY VANCE DURING NORTH AFRICAN COM MEETING.

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2. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF OUR SPECIAL PROBLEMS WITH LIBYA I BELIEVE WE SHOULD PROVIDE CARLE ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS ADAPTED TO THESE CIRCUMSTANCES TO BE USED IN HIS TALKS WITH LIBYANS, AND SUBMIT FOLLOWING SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

3.A. I HAVE EXPLAINED THE U.S. GOALS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

AS OUTLINED BY SECRETARY VANCE DURING OUR RECENT MEETING IN AMMAN. WE ARE GOING TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS AND SHALL SEEK THE COOPERATION OF ALL COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. WE WOULD LIKE TO THINK WE COULD COUNT ON A MORE FAVORABLE ATTITUDE ON LIBYA'S PART.

B. WE HAVE BEEN DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT LIBYA, ALMOST ALONE AMONG THE ARAB COUNTRIES, HAS OPPOSED OUR EFFORTS, WORKING AGAINST A SOLUTION ON ANY BASIS OTHER THAN EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

C. SUCH A POLICY OBVIOUSLY IS UNREALISTIC AND WILL ONLY LEAD TO FURTHER BLOODSHED.

D. IN CONSIDERING ANY IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA WE SHALL HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHETHER LIBYA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE NEGOTIATION OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT BECOMES MORE COOPERATIVE AND WHETHER LIBYA'S ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST GENERALLY BECOMES MORE MODERATE. TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR BASIC POLICY AND WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY OUR GOOD FRIENDS WHO ARE STRIVING WITH US TOWARD A REASONABLE AND JUST NEGOTIATED PEACE.

HARTMAN

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NNN

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